

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/937,015	FAULHAMMER ET AL.	
	Examiner Kamal A Saeed	Art Unit 1626	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--*

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to _____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-22 now renumbered as 1-21.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____. 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____. 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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The restriction requirement of March 13, 2003 has been withdrawn in light Applicants' Amendment filed May 8, 2003, which has been entered in the file.

Examiners Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brion P. Heaney on 06/24/2003.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Delete claim 5.

In claim 6, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 7, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 8, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 9, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 10, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 11, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 12, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

In claim 13, line 1, **delete " 5 " and insert --- 14 ---.**

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention relates to a process for an ionic polymerization of lactams. The process comprises: dissolving a catalyst, a lactam and a regulator in molten lactam; introducing the molten mixture into a mixing device or mold and the heating the mixture to obtain bulk polymerization of lactam in no more than 15 minutes. The closest prior art of record is to Schmid et al, al., US 5,747,634. Schmid et al., teach a continuous process for the activated anionic lactam polymerization, wherein a liquid system is employed which simultaneously contains activator and anionic catalyst for the polymerization of lactam. Schmid et al failed to teach or suggest the addition of the catalyst and regulator into the molten lactam as described in this application.

Therefore, claims 1-4 and 6-22 are allowable.

Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kamal Saeed whose telephone number is (703) 308-4592. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (703) 308 4537. The unofficial fax phone for this group are (703) 308-4556 or 305-3592.

When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Communication via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by applicant and should be addressed to [joseph.mckane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy published by the Patent and Trademark Office Official Gazette on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-2286.

Kamal Saeed, Ph.D
June 24, 2003

Joseph K. McKane
Joseph K. McKane
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1626, Group 1620
Technology Center 1